Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2013

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by CAC Chair Bob Joiner at 6:03 p.m.

Leslie Bender Lorraine Gresser Bob Joiner
Harry Kennedy Tim Klevar Steven Maas
Joan Masberg Joe Piket Kevin Rebman

Don Skoglund

Members Absent John Beacham, Stephen Gill, Greg Hulne

Others Present Councilmember Phil Leith, CAC City Staff Liaison Mike Opatz, and Erin

Caldwell from National Research Center

Minutes The minutes for the June 11, 2013 meeting were approved.

2013 Community Survey

Members

CAC members reviewed with Ms. Caldwell of NRC specific questions/areas of the draft report of results for the 2013 City of Maple Grove Citizen Survey. Ms. Caldwell stated her presentation to the Council would follow the executive summary.

Varies items addressed/comments included:

- Changing demographics of the community and how that will shape programming, such as Parks and Recreation.
- Percentage of negative responses.
- Margin of error.
- Geographic distribution of survey responses. Ms. Caldwell stated she would check with Shannon Hayden on that item.
- Survey will be a good tool for thinking/planning ahead.
- Senior housing.
- Trends for future/compare to other non-Minnesota comparable cities. NRC does a national survey, and Ms. Caldwell stated that can help recognize some challenges—health, housing, walkability, sense of place.
- Discussion ensued on safety and different elements.
- Sense of neighborliness, citizen involvement, community liability.

- NRC will provide national survey results which may help in structuring future survey questions.
- Address changes in cultural diversity. There is the ability to do benchmark comparison with comparable cities on demographics.
- Survey method of mail vs. phone. NRC states mail is better as they have good lists. Phone is becoming more challenging, hard to target and get a good sampling mostly due to cell phone/caller id. Discussion on combination of mailing/online survey—response rates are pretty low, probably wave of future.
- Regarding the Maple Grove survey, some of the responses/statistics showed a couple of improvements, couple of declines from the 2008 survey to 2013.
- Couple of minor corrections/changes were suggested to the draft survey.
- The suggestion was made for a couple CAC members to attend the Council meeting that evening in which NRC would present the draft report results.
- Mention was made of possibly sharing survey with ISD 279. Erin
 of NRC suggested sharing the survey might help with coalitions,
 bridging with other organizations.
- Comment made that it was nice to see use of new items/facilities such as sports dome.
- Mention was made of growing diversity. Maybe some of the open ended comments expressed a feeling of fear.
- Comment was made about the strong worship/church base in the community.
- Survey process went smooth—few returned notification postcards. Lack of negative feedback.
- Look at peer cities.
- Look ahead to features in our community that will have an impact on diversity.
- Keep a handle on where we are, where we are going.

 NRC said they could provide some insight on future items to review and would look at cost of doing comparables with other same sized communities.

Other Business and Updates

The question was asked about adding new CAC members. Depending on how busy committee is and any projects will depend on adding new members. Look at adding new members; broaden diversity—younger citizens, women.

Brief discussion ensued on ISD 279 and standards based grading. Could CAC have a role in bridging.

Also, could CAC help with City Council in improving communications with citizens.

Area Reports

Parking on Fernbrook Lane. Pothole issues submitted to Engineering/Public Works.

No CAC meeting in September; next meeting is October 9, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Morris Minute Secretary